

What's past is prologue.

**For Army
Newspapers**

**April 2001
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POST-30-

Information Strategy Division, Office, Chief of Public Affairs, Department of the Army

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FINAL DRAFT

By Sgt. Maj. Gary G. Beylickjian (Ret)

The truth, the whole truth

I'm continually amazed by the handful of public affairs people who can't seem to overcome the fear of telling the truth—the whole truth—in their post or unit newspapers.

I'm not speaking here about accuracy regarding facts; my focus is on addressing reality that is part of life on Army posts. Simply put, "telling it like it is—up front!"

Life on an Army post is not without problems both personal and social. These are problems leaders at all levels must face head on. And Army newspapers can help by addressing these problems by educating and enlightening the readership.

There is nothing gained by skirting problems; much is gained by confronting and resolving them. The well-known and much touted dictum, "Don't air dirty linen in public," has never worked. Someone will take the dirty linen and turn the bundle into a whitewash. Open and frank discussion is the only way, and Army newspapers can be an effective avenue.

One Army newspaper brought a serious problem to the attention of its readers. There appears to be a drug problem at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii! The March 1 HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY mentioned it in an article on page 7: "Methamphetamine Use Increases In Hawaii; USARHAW Authorities Taking Aggressive Action." The article stated that 157 soldiers tested positive during FY 2000. Last year alone, the use of methamphetamine in Hawaii doubled according to a USARPAC official. The problem is plaguing Hawaii, he said. That HAW ran the story is commendable, perhaps it should have been on page one, up front, putting readers on notice that drug abuse is illegal and that the command is concerned and will take firm action.

Methamphetamine is highly addictive and destroys the mind and body, said a Schofield official. Soldiers caught using the drug could face criminal charges. This is an important issue.

The pages of post and unit newspapers can serve the command through articles that focus on activities that can negatively impact soldiers, their families, careers, organizations as well as the Army. Drug abuse simply affects everything and everyone.

Those public affairs gatekeepers bent on blocking the pathway of information should get out of the way and let the post newspaper its job—facing reality and helping soldiers. The misuse of drugs surely is a reality issue and demands addressing.

One effective way is to tackle it in print before it makes an end run and goes too far afield. Reveal the whole truth. What's there to fear?



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Advertising the story

Headlines

Other functions

- . *Arrest attention*
- . *Grade the news*
- . *Contribute to page design*

Advertising the Story

Once the news story's written, the lead polished, supportive illustrations gathered and the story's placement selected, the headline comes next.

The headline will be the first element to greet readers. It is the attention-getting element on the page. Its role and functions in the story-telling process are as important as a well-tailored and constructed news story. In fact, the headline is part of the story.

Readers scan a headline to get the gist of the story. If what they read from a mere line or two interests them, they'll delve into the story and most likely read it to its end.

If the headline fails to grab their attention, readers will turn to another headline and yet another.

Thus, a newspaper's process of transferring news and information begins first with the headline, which attracts attention and the attention is

maintained by a well-written story. In newspapering, that process is known as communication: the transfer of information.

Of the four functions of headlines listed at the beginning of the discussion, one will be the focus of this discussion: *advertising the news story*.

What's said and how it's said are keys to effective and meaningful headlines. The tone of the headline must reflect the tone of the story. Articles with serious implications must be advertised similarly in the headline.

The Lead's the Source

The chief source for headline information is the *news lead*, provided the lead is properly crafted and the peg of the story correctly spotlighted. But the story's bridge or second paragraph may also contain supportive headline information when the lead is used to focus on only a few of several key

elements of the story. Headlines should not be written based on material located deep in the story in the event the copy is trimmed. Words underscored in the example below are key to the headlines written.

Holiday checkpoints result in four arrests

MPs to make more frequent checks for drunken driving

By Laurie Almodar
Assistant Editor

Over the New Year holiday weekend military police apprehended four drivers when they made more frequent checks for drunken driving at a Stuttgart installation checkpoint.

The apprehensions were the result of a new program that was initiated by the 17th Area Support Group (ASG) to make more frequent checks for drunken drivers during the holiday season.

The ASG's 17th ASG, which is based at the Stuttgart installation, has been conducting checkpoints for drunken drivers since the beginning of the holiday season.

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In this article, authored by Laurie Almodar, the headline is written by information contained in the lead.

"Over the New Year holiday weekend military police apprehended four drivers who failed or refused to take an alcohol breath test at a Stuttgart installation checkpoint." (CITIZEN, 6th ASG, Germany, January 16.)

Lightning strikes soldiers, hospital responds

By TONYA RILEY

Lightning struck near a platoon of soldiers training on East Range around 9 a.m. Jan. 16. Thirty-four soldiers of 4th Platoon, B Battery, 1st Battalion, 79th Field Artillery were transported to Reynolds Army Community Hospital.

The soldiers were transported to Reynolds Army Community Hospital after being struck by lightning while training on East Range around 9 a.m. Jan. 16.

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The page-one article, placed below the fold, was written by Tonya L. Riley. The lead and its bridge provide material for a solid headline.

Note that Riley does not stuff her lead with unit designations. These she supplies in the preceding paragraph.

"Lightning struck near a platoon of soldiers training on East Range around 9 a.m. Jan. 16.

"Thirty-four soldiers of 4th Platoon, B Battery, 1st Battalion, 79th Field Artillery were transported to Reynolds Army Community Hospital." (CANNONEER, Fort Sill, January 18.)

Soldier dies Saturday of gunshot wound

Investigation underway in Rose Terrace incident

By MONICA GARREAU
Staff Writer

A Fort Knox soldier died of a gunshot wound Saturday in a Rose Terrace incident.

The investigation into the death of the soldier is ongoing.

The investigation into the death of the soldier is ongoing.

This headline ran as a banner on its front page, under the flag. The writer is Spc. Monica Garreau. The simple, concise and uncluttered lead is an example of effective news writing.

"A Fort Knox soldier died of a single gunshot wound to the head Saturday.

"Pvt. 2 William Farlow, a mechanic with Headquarters Company, 1/81 Armor Regiment, was transported to the University of Louisville Trauma Center. ... " (INSIDE THE TURRET, Fort Knox, February 22.)

Soldier guilty, gets 5 years jail for sex with minors

By Eric D. Lobsinger
Staff Writer

A Fort Knox soldier was sentenced to five years in prison for sexual offenses with minors.

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The soldier was sentenced to five years in prison for sexual offenses with minors.

Note that the lead in this story begins with three unit designations before the gist of the story is introduced and the headline material is extracted. Also, portion of the headline material is carried in the first sentence of the second paragraph. This article was written by Sgt. 1st Class Eric D. Lobsinger.

"A HQ Battery, 4th Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment soldier pled guilty to reduced charges at a court martial Jan. 16, avoiding a maximum of 82 years in jail, after being charged with having sex with minors.

"Pfc. Travis Puckett was sentenced to five years imprisonment, reduction to E-1, forfeiture of all pay. ... " (ALASKA POST, January 25)

Zama anti-terrorist plan proven 'solid'

By Pfc. Dustin W. Perry
Staff Writer

The 17th Area Support Group conducted a Force Protection exercise Jan. 30 and 31 that tested Camp Zama's ability to combat various types of terrorism tactics and to make sure the plan was valid and

A key word, "solid," in this headline appears nowhere in the lead or in the five paragraphs that follow. It's found, stated in a quote, in the seventh paragraph. News headlines are written from important details, and they should be located in the lead, if the lead is correctly written.



Here journalist Jim Fox introduces his subject by providing an extended background brief on the subject. Is all this material needed in the lead?

“Retired General Barry McCaffrey, the current administration’s outgoing director of the White House Office of National Drug Control, arrived on post Monday to begin the transition to his new position as West Point’s Olin Distinguished Professor of National Security Studies.” POINTER VIEW, West Point, January 12.



The headline material does not derive from the lead, but from the second paragraph, which *should* have been the lead. The paragraphs should have been reversed. Organizations cited are loosely implied. The journalist is Spc. Reeba Varghese.

“Hundreds of flags filled Soldier’s Field House Feb. 11, the day Gov. Gary Locke proclaimed to be George Washington Day.”

“Soldiers, veterans, junior ROTC, ROTC and scouts occupied the seats of the gymnasium to honor the Massing of Colors—the American colors that started from Washington’s presidency to that of President George W. Bush.” (NORTHWEST GUARDIAN, Fort Lewis, February 15.

Selecting words for headlines

Writing headlines is a challenge, requiring a knowledge of words and an understanding of meaning (semantics). This is not a task for everyone.

In the commercial world of daily newspapers, several persons may spend their days in news rooms writing nothing but headlines. In some news rooms today, copy editors (rim persons) continue the tradition of reviewing copy and headlining.

Those with images of days before computers may well remember the process of counting words (based on character widths and sizes). Fitting headlines in narrow columns demanded that journalists have large vocabularies and a knowledge for counting character widths. Computers have made headline writing a little less toiling.

Because most Army newspapers are weekly or monthly, the luxury of a headline writer simply is not possible. In almost every case, the editor or assistant writes the headline, sizes it to fit on the screen and moves on.

But, does that signal the end of the process? No!

The process of choosing the correct word is sometimes ignored. In some Army pubs, headlines are not headlines, but verbless labels, mere terms that focus on generalities rather than on specifics. Here are a few from Army newsletters:

Company Comments

Recruiter’s Forum

Mission Possible

AUSA Breakfast

Triple Threat

Johnson’s Arrival

The basic rule of effective headline writing is to come up with the word or words that will focus—spotlight—the significant element of the story, bearing on specifics.

Vague

**Commander Awards
Soldier Medal**

Specific

**Soldier Awarded for
Saving Child's Life**

Headline tips

Headlines are expressed telegraphically—as an abbreviated form— because of space limitations. Headline grammar is unique in itself.

Key elements that single out an event as newsworthy must be played up in the first line.

Limited space demands headline words of one or two syllables. Stay clear of such words as *implement, investigation, originate, organizations*. Be succinct. Use a thesaurus to search for the shorter version of a long word. Write to express, not to impress.

Unnecessary words such as *a, an the should* be dropped.

In most cases *is, are* and other forms of the verb *to be* can be implied.

Every headline *must* contain a *verb*. Prefer the active voice over the passive. Use one of two verb tenses: *present (sometimes known as the historical present)* or *future*. The *past* tense generally is not used. But the pluperfect tense is used to denote an action past.

Future action is denoted through the use of the *to* form (the infinitive) of the verb. Shy away from *will and shall*.

Headlines should not begin with a verb or an infinitive, the *to* form of the verb. Use the *to* form (infinitive) to indicate a future action within a headline.

Words should never be hyphenated between lines.

Opinions or editorializations must be kept out of headlines as in “*big success*” at right.

A question headline should be avoided. Inform, don't interrogate the reader.



**First Red Cross blood drive
at AOC was a big success!**

Opinions must be attributed to a source. The phrase “big success” should not have been included in the headline. Note also the use of the *past* tense (was); it should have been deleted because it can be implied.

A major rule: be sure the headline fits the space allotted. The example at left shows the results of ignoring the rule and the effects of excessive letter spacing.

If a headline requires more than one line, place the most important words on the first or top line. Similar to writing a news lead: the most important facts come in the opening words of the lead.

Both words formed by a hyphen are usually capitalized.

Sole-Survivor Pay-Scale

Headline Punctuation—Most Common marks

, Used most often in place of the conjunction, “and” and when a word is omitted. Also used between dependent and independent clauses. Depending on the style of a newspaper, the comma is used to set off appositives.

. Used in abbreviations, but not at the end of headline sentences.

; Used in sentence breaks.

‘ Single quote marks are used for

newspaper and newsletter headlines.

: The colon is used in some newspapers to indicate an attribution.

— Other newspapers prefer the dash for attribution.

? Mostly used in feature leads.

! Seldom used in headlines.

Let’s review the lead, below, used in the example on the bottom of page 4. The writer placed irrelevant facts before the important ones. The soldier’s unit plays no significant role in the telling of the story. The lead could have said: “A Fort Wainwright soldier pled....,” the post was noted in the story dateline. Or: “A soldier pled....?” Again, place significant facts at the beginning of a news lead. Note: “Pled” is not an acceptable word; **pleaded** is the correct word.

“A HQ Battery, 4th Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment soldier pled guilty to reduced charges at a court martial Jan. 16, avoiding a maximum of 82 years in jail, after being charged with having sex with minors.

“Pfc. Travis Puckett was sentenced to five years imprisonment, reduction to E-1, forfeiture of all pay. ...”

The point to this is that the lead must be well written if the headline is to be well written. Too many Army journalists play up unit designations in the start of a news story. Often, such information is unimportant and can go in body of the story.

After reading through a news story, twice if possible, but not more than that, the headline writer (editor or assistant) should ask the same probing questions reporters ask: *who did what, what happened?*

Finally

Every headline must contain a verb— stated or implied.



NCO Journal — Back in Print

FORT BLISS, Texas (Army News Service) The only magazine devoted to the noncommissioned officer corps in the U.S. Army made its return to the field in February after three years of non-publication in hardcopy form.

The NCO Journal, a quarterly publication that made its first debut in 1991, is a professional development tool, officials said, designed to provide a forum for the open exchange of ideas and information, support training, education and development of noncommissioned officers.

"As part of the magazine's mission, it also fosters a closer bond among the NCO corps," said Staff Sgt. Donald Sparks, editor-in-chief of the NCO Journal. "This magazine is long overdue in getting it back to our Army and the NCO Corps. For the last three years, there have been numerous requests and correspondence concerning the magazine's status."

Sparks spearheaded the magazine's return by redesigning the entire publication, which he said was no easy task. After the three years when the magazine was sporadically posted on the web, there were few articles to consider when funding was restored for printing, he said.

"The success of the NCO Journal depends primarily on the NCOs in the field," Sparks said. "Three years is a long time for any publication to recover after not printing, but as word got out about the magazine's return, articles made their way to my desk."

"More than anything else, the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy wanted to ensure that the magazine would be a quality product for the NCOs," Sparks said.

Sparks admitted that not everyone may get the magazine right away because of an outdated mailing and distribution list. Its target circulation is one magazine for every seven noncommissioned officers.

By publishing articles and letters from the field, NCOs will be able to express their views, expertise, knowledge and experiences for all to share and learn, Sparks said.

For more information about the NCO Journal or to send articles to the magazine, e-mail atss-sj-ncojournal@bliss.army.mil or call DSN 978-9068. (photo on page 12)

(Editor's note: Compiled by the U.S. Army Sergeant's Major Academy's Public Affairs Office.)

The passive voice

In the previous Post -30- in the discussion on leads I cited this example: *"On Jan. 10, Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera announced a new advertising campaign that focuses on individual soldiers."*

And I offered one of several replacements for that statement: *"A new advertising campaign that focuses on individual soldiers was announced..."* This statement contains the passive voice "was announced," a construction most writers and editors are encouraged to avoid.

Although the active voice is preferred, the passive has a small place in news writing. It's not as forceful and economic as the active, but the pas-

sive should not be off limits. How simpler could we write: "I got robbed!" or "Four soldiers were injured?" The passive has a way of focusing attention on the agent of the sentence. "The jeep ran over the soldier." (active). "The soldier was run over by the jeep." (passive). The emphasis is on the soldier not the means of the mishap or accident.

More about the passive in an upcoming Post-30-

Here's one of rewrites I intended to include in the previous Post -30-: *"A new advertising slogan is now part of the Army's recruitment campaign. The Secretary of the Army made the announcement. ..."*

NAA: Newspapers strong as ever

By Gary Sheftick

Despite rumors of cutbacks at some daily newspapers, one official said the newspaper industry is as strong as ever.

"Print is still the backbone," said John Kimball, senior vice president of the Newspaper Association of America. "All creative thinking comes out of print."

Kimball spoke to military newspaper consultants Feb. 22 at the Defense Department's quarterly Interservice Newspaper Committee meeting. (At the INC meeting, top newspaper NCOs and civilians from the four services gather to discuss print policy and pressing issues.)

"Newspapers will continue to be a hugely valuable medium," Kimball told the group.

Kimball said the Internet will not replace hard-copy newspapers.

"Radio was going to make us obsolete," Kimball said. "TV was going to make us obsolete."

But he said newspapers today are within 10 marketing points of the advertising share that they had in 1959, when television was in its infancy. In other words, he said newspaper advertising is as strong as ever.

"We don't get a lot of credit as an industry for being terribly sexy and exciting," Kimball said about newspapers, "but we deliver."

Six out of 10 adults read a newspaper on an average weekday, according to the NAA, and 67 percent read newspapers

on any given Sunday. And over the length of a month, 80 percent of all American adults will have read a newspaper, according to NAA.

"Newspapers are local," Kimball said, adding that people have "trust" in their local newspaper that they don't have in other media.

People feel "ownership" of their local paper, Kimball said, explaining that you often hear people say "my newspaper." But he said seldom do you hear anyone refer to "my" television news program or "my" Internet news site.

However, Kimball said the "walls" between traditional and new media are crumbling.

"Frankly, the Internet scared the heck out of us at first," Kimball said, explaining that publishers saw the Internet as a threat.

"Then it hit us," Kimball said. "The newspaper business is not (just) ink on paper."

Newspapers today have embraced the Internet, Kimball said, and they are reshaping it. He said some of the best sites on the Web belong to newspapers.

Internet newspapers "combine the depth and analysis of print with timeliness of the Web," Kimball said, adding that newspaper Web sites can be refreshed or updated 24 hours a day as news occurs.

"Newspapers surprise and delight," Kimball said. "They enrich lives."

Check adjectives for Editorializing

Write it tight and keep it straight. That's good advice for the unseasoned Army journalist new on the job.

Many journalists tend to inject certain adjectives into stories and headlines that border on editorializing. Although their use may be unintentional, adjectives not properly selected give readers a slanted viewpoint.

For instance, "A large crowd gath-

ered at the main gate protesting the school's transfer to the area." A "large" crowd could be a great many people in the opinion of someone from a rural area, but for someone from New York, Los Angeles or Chicago, the crowd could be considered a "small."

A number of newspapers have begun expressing opinions in headlines and they should not. Reporters and editors

must keep copy and headlines free of “bias,” “prejudice” and other forms of personal viewpoints. Here are two of several found in post newspapers.

There’s a place for expressing points of view: you find it in commentary columns on editorial and op/ed pages:

Fort Lewis successfully focuses on stopping suicide

First Red Cross blood drive at AOC was a big success!

Words, Phrases and Their Particulars

These examples showed up in post and unit newspapers during February and March

Recently—Army writers should drop this crutch. *Recently* like *lately* and a few other similar words carry no specific meaning. If you must depend on “...was recently awarded...,” try “...has received. ...” or even, “...has been awarded. ...” Strike “recently” from your writing.

“*The soldiers had to fight from trenches like soldiers did in World War I.*” *Like* is incorrectly used. Use *as*. Consider this: if a verb comes after *like*, in this case, *did*, the sentence is not grammatical. But if no verb follows *like*, the sentence is okay. Example: “*The soldiers had to fight from trenches like their predecessors.*”

Allude, Refer—Think of *allude* as being similar to a hint, or an indirect mention about something or someone. When you *refer*, you’re speaking or writing directly about something or someone.

Background experience—Use one or the other, but not both. The construction is redundant.

New record—If it’s *new*, it’s a *record*. Use *record* alone. And as for “*all-time record high*,” what’s wrong with just plain, *record*?

Consensus of opinion—This phrase crops up occasionally. *Consensus* says it all.

An historic—This should be “a historic.”

Necessary essentials—Two good words when used separately, but redundant when put together. Either one by itself easily conveys the meaning.

Past experience—Is a present or future experience possible? This is redundant phrase.

Alright—*Alright* is not *all right*, but *all right* is.

Orientated—“The group was being *orientated* on night vision equipment.” The correct word is *oriented*. (This mistake is made frequently in speech.)

Continues to remain—More effectively written: *remains* or *stays*.

It is essential that—Another phrase that can be stated in one word: *must* or *should*.

The Army's Finest in Print

2000 KLW Winners

Civilian Enterprise Broadsheet

PARAGLIDE

Fort Bragg, NC

2nd: SIGNAL (TRADOC)
3rd: Fort Dix POST (USAR)

Civilian Enterprise Tabloid

ALASKA POST

U. S. Army Alaska

2nd: PENTAGRAM (MDW)
3rd: HERALD-POST (USAREUR)

Army Funded Large

FALCON FLIER

122th MPAD

2nd: THE ON GUARD (NGB)
3rd: MERCURY (MEDCOM)

Army Funded Magazine

BUCKEYE GUARD

Ohio National Guard

2nd: PACIFIC VOICE (FORSCOM)
3rd: GLOBE (TRADOC)

Civilian Enterprise Magazine

TRAINING JOURNAL

7th Army Training Command

2nd: KORUS (USFK)
3rd: None

Army Funded Small

KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

U.S. Army Space and Missile Command

2nd: PHOENIX RISING (Recruiting Cmd)
3rd: MEDICAL MINUTE (MEDCOM)

2000 K LW**The Army's Best in Print Journalism****New Articles**—Spc. Edward Passino—*Fort Belvoir***Feature Articles**—Spc. Christopher Stape—*Fort Knox (Stape is now at Fort Bragg)***Commentaries**—Kathryn White—*Fort Hood***Sports**—Sgt. Noreen Feeney—*88th RSC***Sports Series**—Pfc. Mark Watson—*Fort Benning***Single, Stand Alone Photograph**—Kryn Peter Westhoven—*Fort Dix***Photojournalism**—Pfc. Christopher Rowe—*364th MPAD, U.S. Army Reserve***Art/Graphics Supporting a Publication**—Joyce C. Knight—*U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Fort Knox***Contractor Contribution (Writer)**—Connie Ballenger—*Fort Meade***Contractor Contribution (Photo)**—Anna C. Peterson—*Fort Bragg***Special Contributor Art**—Stacey Avian Robinson—*Fort Bragg***Web-Based Publication**—U.S. Army Europe, Heidelberg—*USAREUR***Rising Star—Outstanding New Writer**—Spc. Edward Passino—*Fort Belvoir***Special Achievement in Print**—104th ASG—*USAREUR***Senior-Level Writer**—Sgt. 1st Class Thomas O'Hara—*Ohio National Guard***Summer Camp Publication**—WARRIOR LEADER—*4th ROTC Region, Fort Lewis***Field Newspaper**—Keen Sword! The Double Edge—*354th MPAD, U.S. Army Reserve***Paul D. Savanuck Military Journalist
Of the Year*****Spc. Peter Fitzgerald, Fort Leonard Wood*****Moss-Holland Civilian Journalist
Of the Year*****Tonya L. Riley, Fort Sill***

Keith L. Ware/Journalist of the Year Judges

Categories A-F Newspapers, Magazines

Dr. Edmund C. Arnold, (author of 25 texts on publication layout/design; former Army journalist; former professor of Mass Communication)

Mr. Ray Gniewek, (former Army editor; senior editor, USA TODAY)

Sgt. Maj. Gary G. Beylickjian (Ret) (first enlist chief of Army newspapers; co-founder of Journalist of the Year award; editor, Post-30; inductee PA Hall of Fame.)

Categories G, H, U News, Feature Articles and commentaries

Mr. Kevin Robinson (former chief of Army newspapers, editor; VISION magazine)

Sgt. 1st Class Robin Brown (DINFOS instructor)

Mr. Brian Mac Keil (news editor, ARMY TIMES)

Categories J, K, U Sports, Story Series, Senior-Level Writing

Mr. Jim Garamone (AFPS senior civilian correspondent, former Army editor)

Ms. Valarie Basheda (managing editor, AMERICAN JOURNALISM REVIEW)

Categories L-Q Stand Alone/Single Photo, Photojournalism, Art/Graphics, Contract/Stringer (Writer), Contract/Stringer (Photo), Special Contributor, Art

Mr. Robert Crockett (director, Intermediate Photojournalism Course, DINFOS)

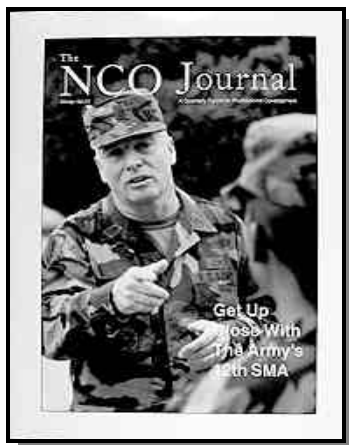
Master Sgt. Kiki Bryant (NCOIC, Army Public Affairs Center)

Categories S-W Journalists of the Year, Rising Star Award, Special Achievement in Print, Summer Camp Publications, Field Newspapers

Mr. Tony Nauroth (former chief of Army newspapers; editor commercial newspaper)

Mr. Patrick Swan (former ARNEWS director, Army journalist and editor)

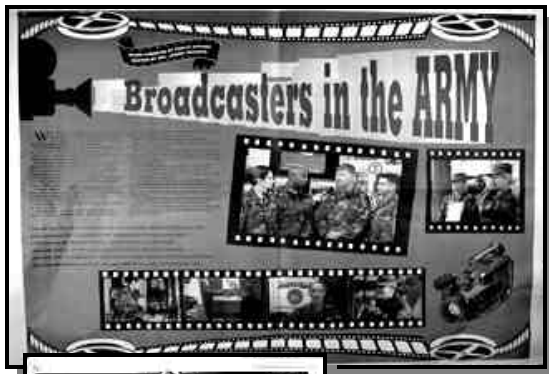
Col. Joseph Burlas II (Ret) (founder of Keith L. Ware competition; former Army editor and Public Affairs Officer; inductee in PA Hall of Fame)



Left—The quarterly NCO Journal, a magazine produced by the Sergeant Major Academy, Fort Bliss, Texas, is back after a three-year sabbatical. The creative thrust behind the “new and improved” journal is Staff Sgt. Donald Sparks with help by illustrator, Spc. Blanca Rivera. **Top**—Here’s a banner head rarely seen in Army newspapers. It ran in the March 9 NORTHWEST GUARDIAN. Fort Lewis was not spared by the 6.8 shake February 28. More than 370 buildings suffered damage. Great reporting by Spc. Lorin T. Smith, photo by James Symmonds. Barbara Sellers is the editor.



Top left—An eye-grabbing photo greets readers of the Winter issue of the WILDCAT, quarterly tabloid of the 81st Regional Support Command, Birmingham, Ala. Bold heads, innovative layouts and informative and interesting articles attract and hold readers. Sgt. Derrick Witherspoon is editor. **Top**—“Fort Belvoir Youth Services experimented with something new Jan. 13, as they gathered a group of teenagers and partnered with a group from Old Bridge United Methodist Church to take part in a community service project called Reaching Out to the Homeless.” These extraordinary photos and the outstanding article underscore the best in Army journalism. The outstanding night photos were taken by Paul Disney and the creative words came from Spc. Edward Passino, named recipient of the first “Rising Star” award as Outstanding New Writer. This issue with its feature, Youth Take Mission To D. C. Streets,” was published January 25. **Left**—Fort Monroe’s CASEMATE always carries interesting and informative articles, but the Jan. 19 issue had something even more special: another great feature by Roger T. Conroy. “African Culture Influences American Fashion.”



Top left—There’s always a smart journalist among us—not a wise guy, but a creative one. “Smarts” is what’s needed to do a presentation that appeared in the January 25 Fort Bliss MONITOR. The soldier with the know-how and imagination is Spc. Aaron Thacker. **Top**—Tell it like it is. Let readers know there are some serious problems on post and the “brass” knows about and is going to act. Open and frank coverage of real-world issues, larceny is among them, can alert the readership and can serve as a deterrent on notice. You can’t break into housing areas and get away with it. The page-one story was written by Spc. Frank Magni and it appeared in the March 2 Fort Gordon SIGNAL. Janet A. McElmurry is editor. **Left**—The dynamic photo taken in 1998 by Dean J. Koepfler appeared in the March 2 supplement to the NORTHWEST GUARDIAN, as an intro to an article on climbing Mt. Rainer in Washington..



Top left—Fort Jackson's weekly tabloid, the LEADER, shed its stodgy look and has joined the family of contemporary Army newspapers. This excellent double truck (not a common sight in the LEADER) was put together from scratch by Spc. Steve Kinney, the editor. He took the photos, wrote the story and did the layout. **Top right**—TOWER TIMES, a monthly newsletter produced by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island, Ill., is chock full of interesting and attention-getting words and pictures. Mark Kane is the creative mind behind this great publication. **Below left**—Another outstanding spread that has been the trademark of Fort Myer's PENTAGRAM. A strong vertical with two clusters on the west page. And on the east page, a slight horizontal and a slight vertical joined to the copy block (text). Cutlines with their respective photos. The story and photos by Paul Haring. The issue is dated February 16. **Below right**—The DESERT VOICE, published out of Camp Doha, Kuwait, dedicated many of its pages in the March 7 Special Edition to the 10th anniversary of the Gulf War. Among the dignitaries at the memorial were former President George Bush, Secretary of State Colin Powell and retired Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf.



Left—The reproduction does an injustice to this excellent double truck which appeared in the Feb. 22 Fort Campbell COURIER. The headline "Approaching The Storm," recounts the role of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in the Gulf War. The two-page spread is an excellent example of creativity and innovation in a broadsheet such as the COURIER. Sgt. 1st Class Richard Arndt is the editor.

Spc. Stacy Harris, J-Award winner has moved to Fort Carson's and now serves on the staff of the post's tabloid, MOUNTAINEER. Before her assignment at Fort Carson, Harris wrote for Fort Drum BLIZZARD for several years.

Also at Fort Carson, the MOUNTAINEER's editor, Anthony Joseph, has added a chevron to his rank. He's now a staff sergeant.

Sgt. Chris Dunphy is the LAMP's editor. Sgt. William Boldt, who edited the Fort Leavenworth tabloid, is the post's Public Affairs NCOIC.

Fort Benning's BAYONET has a contributing cartoonist on post. Staff Sgt. Justin Trenary is an illustrator assigned to the 4th Ranger Bn., and developed a cartoon strip, Hup Too, which has appears in the BAYONET.

The arsenal at Rock Island, Ill., put its tabloid to bed for the last time. The TARGET was not picked up for renewal by the publisher. TARGET, in business for nearly four decades, was edited by Paul Levesque.

Sgt. Mark Swart, military editor of Fort Gordon's SIGNAL, is not only an outstanding writer, but also has talent for layout. The SIGNAL has a bold and arresting look, the kind that lures readers to grab a copy and view it wares.

DESERT VOICE, produced at Camp Doha, Kuwait, has a novel name for it's "man-on-the-street" column. Each issue asks relevant questions to six soldiers stationed in Kuwait and publishes the answers in "Echoes Across The Sand." The editor is Sgt. Bryan Beach.

Pfc. Johanna L. Murphy was tabbed as editor of Fort Rucker's top-notch broadsheet, the ARMY FLIER. Murphy succeeds Sgt. Amy Morris, who returned from PLDC, and has moved to other duties in the post's PA shop.

JOURNALIST AWARD WINNERS



INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Three Awards

Staci Sands

Two Awards

Tim Hipps

One Award

Larry Barnes; Spc. Christy Johnstone; Tonya Riley; Nel Lampe; Dave Snyder; Jean Schucker; Jean Offutt; Wayne V. Hall; Carol Cummings; Spc. Mitch Frazier; Michael Meines; Spc. Adriane Foss; Rick Brunk; Lucille Anne Newman; Melissa Davis; Bridgett Siter; Sally Shutt; Spc. Casondra Brewster; Pfc. Monica Garreau; Pfc. Teresa Heist; Sandy Riebeling; Spc. Peter Fitzgerald; Harry Noyes; Spc. Mindy Anderson; Kim Rieschling; Sgt. William Wilczewski, Roger T. Conroy; Spc. Ed Passino

PUBLICATION AWARDS

Three Awards Army Flier

Two Awards

Courier; Inside the Turret Casemate; Herald Union; Guardian; Fort Riley Post; Ironside

One Award

Guidon; Eagle; Fort Dix Post; Korus; Desert Voice; Herald-Post; Pointer View; Torii; Talon; Lamp; Seoul Word; On Guard; Training Times; Prairie Soldier; Citizen; Redstone Rocket; Fort Carson Mountaineer; Castle Comment, Monitor; Mercury; Alaska Post; Duty First; Sine Pari; Bulletin; Bayonet; Frontline; Fort Riley Post; Benelux Meteor; Tobyhanna Reporter; Riverside; Indianhead; Banner; Tiefert Telegraph; Outlook; Paraglide; Castle; Phoenix Rising; Pentagon; Signal; Kwajalein Hourglass; Buckeye Guard; Countermeasure; Bear Facts



EXCELLENCE IN VERBAL AND VISUAL PRESENTATIONS

LEADER (Fort Jackson) for the two-page spread "Shooting 'An Army Of One'," by Spc. Steve Kinney. Also in the same issue "The Essential Guide To Combat Cooking," by K. Douglas Cook. Both published, February 8.

CASEMATE (Fort Monroe) for "African Culture Influences American Fashion," by Roger T. Conroy, published January 19.

PARAGLIDE (Fort Bragg) for "Once A Soldier, Always A Soldier," by Spc. Kiandra E. Kaiser, published March 8.

TOWER TIMES (COE, Rock Island) for "Walkin' On Thin Ice," by Kelly Ulrick, published January/February.

TALON (Bosnia) for "Bradley's Prepare For Glamoc Exercise," story and photos by Sgt. Noreen L. Feeney. Also for the second of two parts "Preparing For The Board," by Command Sgt. Maj. Carlos A. Cueto. Both published February 10.

NORTHWEST GUARDIAN (Fort Lewis) for the commentary "Three Qualities Good Leaders Must Have," by Barbara Sellers. Also for "Army Wife Running Miles For Leukemia Patient," by Pfc. Alfredo Jimenez Jr. Both published February 15. Also for its crime column "Police Call."

REDSTONE ROCKET (Redstone Arsenal) for "Surviving The Home Front When The Soldier's Away," by Sandy Riebeling. Also for "Drill Sergeant Of Year Appreciates Freedom Of Adopted Land," by Sgt. Sharon McBride. Both published February 21.

NEWS LEADER (Fort Sam Houston) for the second in the series: "Social Inclusion Hallmark Of Cole Impact Partners," by Cleo Brennan, published February 22.

MONITOR (Fort Bliss) for the visual display in "Broadcasters In The Army," published January 25. Also for the continuing columns: Police Beat and Crime Stoppers.

PACIFIC CONNECTION (COE, Honolulu) for its marked editorial and graphic improvements. Alexander Kufel is editor.

INSIDE THE TURRET (Fort Knox) for "Supervision Required For Children 8 & Under," by Pfc. Rosalyn Peterkin. Also for the commentary "Misinterpretation: Complaint About New Slogan Not Warranted," by Bob Mineo; published February 15. Also for its consistently outstanding sports page, Sgt. William Wilczeski, sports editor.

SENTINEL (Fort McPherson) for the spread "Still On Patrol: Ten Years After The Gulf War, Third Army Remains—and Reigns," by Spc. Chad T. Jones, published January 19.

POST (Fort Dix) for the first-hand account in "Red Cross Worker Recalls Japan, 'Forgotten War'," by Jane Kaczmarek, published January 26. Also for its special feature page, "Outlook."

COURIER (Fort Campbell) for "Sound Off: Installation Signals Threats With New Early Warning Alert," by Spc. Dahrl. C. Hankins. Also for the full-page spread "Boy Scouts: Local Program Heralded On National Anniversary," by Erin FitzPatrick, both published February 8. Also for an outstanding sports pages. Jeremy Stevenson is sports editor, and for its new and improved "Information and Comments," (an editorial and a commentary page).

HERALD UNION (104th ASG, Germany) for "Last Helau! For Americans In BK," by Deborah L. Powers, published February 20.

BELVOIR EAGLE (Fort Belvoir) for the commentary "Soldiers Serve For More Than Fame, Money," by Wayne V. Hall, published March 1.

GUIDON (Fort Leonard Wood) for the photos and layout in "Marching To The Top," no credits, published February 15.

CASEMATE (Fort Monroe) for "Great Commoner Visits Fort Monroe Twice," a feature on the history of the post by David J. Johnson. Also for "Vision Becomes Neighborhood Reality," by Roger T. Conroy. Both published March 2.

SENTINEL (Fort Hood) for its articles on Black History, published February 22. Also for its quality coverage of sports on post. Sgt. Kap Kim is sports editor.

ALASKA POST (Fort Richardson) for "Combat: Character Building Experience For Officer" and "Infantryman Left Footprints in Desert Storm Sand," both by Sgt. 1st Class Eric D. Lobsinger, published March 1.

SCOUT (Fort Huachuca) for "Bataan March Held To Remember Past," by Jessica Espinosa, published March 1.

WILDCAT (81st RSC) for the layout, photos and story in "London Pride," by Paul Adams, published Winter 2001.

PENTAGRAM (Fort Myer) for the layout and photos in "Ceremony Marks Lincoln's Birthday," by Paul Haring, published February 16.

FRONTLINE (3ID, Fort Stewart) for the photos and layout "FFMB—Rites Of Passage," by Spc. Stephanie L. Carl, published February 1.

TRAVELLER (Fort Lee) for the story, photos and layout in "Bringing Fuel To The Force," by Spc. Neil C. Jones, published February 15.

PARAGLIDE (Fort Bragg) for "Army Retiree Paints Story Of Unsung Heroes," by Brian Lucas. Also for "Carjacking: How To Take Action—Avoid Becoming A Victim," by Spc. Timothy Hall, PMO Both published February 22.

BLIZZARD (Fort Drum) for "When The Lights Go Out, Don't Get Lost In The Dark," by Spc. Jason R. Cutshaw, published February 22.

MERCURY (MEDCOM) for the continuing series "Medics Of The Coldest War—Korean War," by Harry Noyes. Chapter Six was published in the February issue.

KORUS (USFK) for "Beyond The DMZ," by Pfc. Edgar R. Gonzalez, published in January.

ARMY FLIER (Fort Rucker) for "Seafood: Anchor For Healthy Living," by Staci Sands, published February 23.

BELVOIR EAGLE (Fort Belvoir) for the commentaries "A Soldier's Letter Home From Votkinsk, Russia," by Clem Gaines, and "Desert Storm's Defining Moment," by Wayne V. Hall. Also for the layout and photos in "DeWitt Medics Seek Coveted Badge," by Paul Disney. All published March 8.

GOLDBAR LEADER (Fort Lewis) for "Harlem Hellfighters Proved Black Courage In World War I," by Bob Rosenburgh, published in February.

ALASKA POST (Alaska) for "Memories You Would Never Trade, Never Want To Relive," by Sgt. 1st Class Eric Lobsinger. Also by Lobsinger "Desert Storm 1991-2001: War Brought The Heat For NCO." Both published February 22.

SIGNAL (Fort Gordon) for Part I "Buried History: Post Cemeteries Hold Secrets Dating Back Hundreds of Years" and "A Kind And Gentle Man-- Area Resident's Search For Grandfather's Grave Leads To Unmarked Fort Gordon Plot," both written by Sgt. Dave Enders and published February 9. Part II was published February 16.

TRAVELLER (Fort Lee) for its coverage of Black History Month, the supportive cover and the feature "Mapping Out Cultural Foundations," compiled by Spc. Erika Gladhill, published February 22.

COUNTERMEASURE (Fort Rucker) for the special "Civilians Are Key In Accident Prevention," published in March. Paula Allman is editor.

HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY (Schofield Barracks) for "Methamphetamine Use Increases In Hawaii; USARHAW Authorities Taking Aggressive Action," by Pvt. Leigh Snyder, published March 1.

KORUS (USFK) for "Red Barons: Mission Keeps Soldiers In," story and photos by Pfc. Edgar R. Gonzalez, published in February.

SEOUL WORD (34th SG, Korea) for "Teenager Leads First National Independence Movement," by Huh Sung, published March 2.

GUIDON (Fort Leonard Wood) for the commentaries: "A Gift From The Heavens—Snow Brings More Than Slippery Streets, Shoveling Duties," by Rick Brunk and for the outstanding "A Dedication: Ordinary People Can Have Extraordinary Affect On Lives," by Pfc. Maurice Smith. Also for a look back in history in the exceptional treatise "The Mystery Of Rudolph Hess: Hitler's Second In Command," by Dr. Richard Wright III. All published March 1.

POST (Fort Dix) for the commentary "Should The United States Keep Military Forces In The Balkans?" by Carolee Nisbet, published March 9.

WHEEL (Fort Eustis) for "Final Salute: Army Says Goodbye To Its Own," story and photos by Spc. Jonathan Wiley, published February 22.

SOUNDOFF! (Fort Meade) for "Service With A Smile: USO Celebrates 60 Years Of Helping Troops," by Carol Cummings, photos by Sherri DiBari, published February 1.

GUARDIAN (Fort Polk) for "519th CSM Knows How To Give," Margaret Brewster.

[Command Sergeant Major donated bone marrow to save young girl with leukemia.]

Published January 26.

TRANSLOG (MTMC) for a information-packed January/February issue. Loads of interesting and well-crafted articles, page designs and colorful photos. Angela Aguero is editor and designer.

POINTER VIEW (West Point) for Part I, "Molding The Molders," by Sgt. Christopher Land and for "Reminding Them How Special They Are," by Pvt. 2 Nate Jastrzowski.

Both published February 23.

REDSTONE ROCKET (Redstone Arsenal) for "Real 'Rocket Boy' Holds On To His Dreams," by Beth Skarupa, published February 7.

HERALD-POST (26th ASG, Germany) for the commentary "It's Where Your Head Is, Not Your Hand(y)," by Juan R. Melendez Jr., published March 1.

SEOUL WORD (Korea) for "Exploring Korean Culture Thru Beauty Of Hanbok," by Kwon Soon-wook, published February 2.

AT EASE (WING) for the story and photos "Training At The Edge Of The Earth: Wisconsin Infantry Platoon Trains In Southern Chile," by 1st Lt. Gina Marie Williams, published in the Fall/Winter issue.

NEWS LEADER (Fort Sam Houston) for "Chicken Soup For The Classroom Supports Students Success," by Cleo Brennan, published February 1.

TRACKS (Anniston Army Depot) for "February 19-23 Is Alabama Severe Weather Awareness Week," no byline, published February 15.

LEADER (Fort Jackson) for "So...You Want A Little Change," by K. Douglas Cook, produced under the standing head "Dinosaur Tracks." *[Cook looks back at the Army he joined 36 years ago and notes the many changes that have taken place since.]*

COURIER (Fort Campbell) for "Fort Campbell Vets Recall Desert Storm," by Spc. Dahr C. Hankins; for the dazzling double truck display "Approaching The Storm," no credits *[a salute to all Screaming Eagles who took part in the 100-hour war]*; for "Big Brothers, Big Sisters," by Erin FitzPatrick; for "Step Back In Time," by Sgt. 1st Class Richard Arndt; all published in a single issue dated February 22.

WARRIOR (U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center, Natick, Ma.) for "Pest-proof Uniforms," by Curt Biberdorf, published March/April issue.

DESERT VOICE (Kuwait) for its Special Edition (commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Gulf War), published March 7. Sgt. Bryan Beach is editor.

MOUNTAINEER (Fort Carson) for "Combat Cooks Stir Up Storm At Pinon," by Staff Sgt. Gary L. Qualls Jr., published March 9.

ARMY WEEKLY (Schofield Barracks) for "Sun Sets Over Sinai," by Sgt. Daisy Bueno, published March 15.

MONITOR (Fort Bliss) for layout in the two-page spread "Drill Sergeant Of The Year Competition," by Spc. Aaron Thacker, published March 8.

POST (Fort Dix) for "Ex-NFL Player Now Tackles Legal Problems With Team Dix," by Kyrn P. Westhoven, published February 16.

ARMY FLIER (Fort Rucker) for "Where's The Beef? Leafy Look At Vegetarianism," by Staci Sands, published March 1. -30-

End Notes

NEWSPAPER WORKSHOP

A regional Army Newspaper Workshop will be held May 22-24 in Huntsville, Ala. The first 60 applicants to register are ensured spaces. Instructors said the class size will be managed to enable "hands-on" training on news judgment and newspaper layout.

The workshop, hosted by the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, will be held in the Four Points Sheraton Hotel at the Huntsville Airport. A block of 45 guest rooms have been set aside for the workshop and after that hotel reservations will be on a space-available basis; so organizers advise calling the hotel as soon as possible. The Sheraton reservations number is (256) 772-9661.

Please mention you will be attending the Army Newspa-

per Workshop.

Conference registration will take place Monday, May 21 from noon to 6 p.m. A tentative registration fee of \$55 is based on 60 participants, and could be adjusted based on class size. Registration fees will be paid in cash (receipt to be given on-the-spot) at the SMDC conference registration table.

An icebreaker will be held from 7 p.m.—8:30 p.m. Monday, May 21, in the Redstone/Marshall Room with a cash bar, and hor d'oeuvres. No meals are being hosted. Participants can eat in the hotel restaurant or at the airport fast-food franchise.

The workshop will end no later than 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 24, so participants can plan to get flights out.

The airport is located about 15 minutes west of the city.

Information about

Huntsville is available from the Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau at www.huntsville.org.

Instructors will include the Department of the Army team of Gary Sheftick, Master Sgt. Jon Connor and retired Sgt. Maj. Gary G. Beylickjian, first enlisted chief of Army newspapers and first enlisted soldier inducted in the 2000 Public Affairs Hall of Fame. They will be joined by retired Master Sgt. Jonathan Pierce and retired Master Sgt. Don Carr, both former chiefs of the Army newspapers, and retired Sgt. Maj. Dan Coberly, a former chief of the Forces Command Newspaper Program.

To pre-register for the workshop, please e-mail Jonathan.Pierce@smdc.army.mil. Provide your phone number and address in the email. -30-

PASSAGES FROM PAGES OF ARMY NEWSPAPERS

"The bright lights and sterile hallways offered a sharp contrast to the sad state of the majority of those occupying the Hudson Valley Veterans Hospital in Montrose, N.Y.

"Old soldiers—their bodies and minds scarred from battles and ravaged by time—fill the hallways and common areas of the facility, silently waiting their turn to join the thousands of "honored remembered."

Pvt. 2 Nate Jastrzemski, from "Reminding Them How Special They Are," POINTER VIEW, February 23.

"The Stuttgart Rod and Gun Club is caught in the crosshairs of a German regulation and is fighting for its survival."

Laurie Almodovar from "American With Guns In Germany: Rod And Gun Club Fights For Survival, CITIZEN, February 13.

"They take only a few moments to say, but the message they carry echoes for years to come: "This flag is presented on behalf of a grateful nation as a token of appreciation for the honorable and faithful service of your loved one."

Spc. Jonathan Wiley, from "Final Salute: Army Says Goodbye To Its Own," WHEEL, February 22